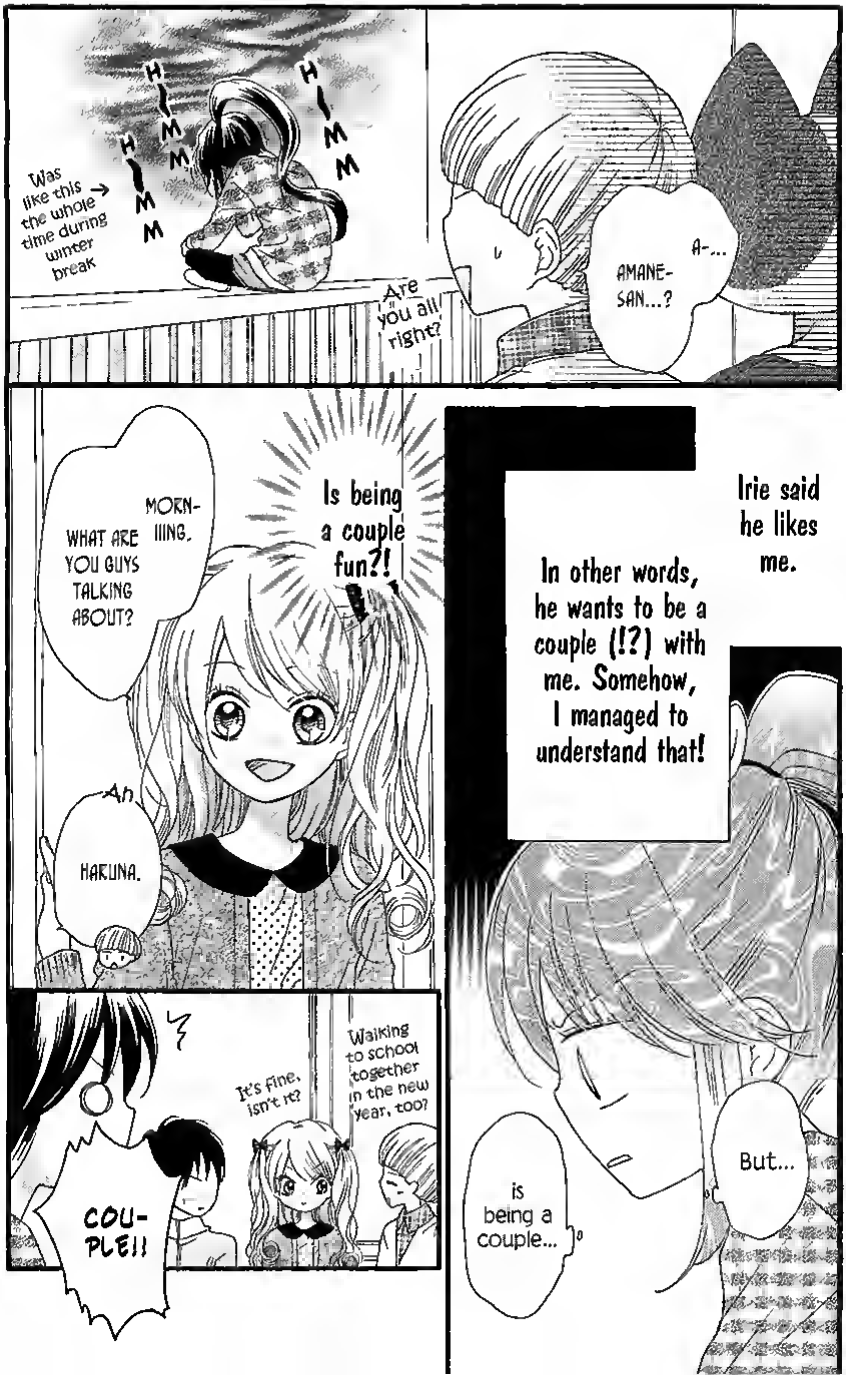
猫田のことが気になって仕方ない。
Chapter 21

AMANE-SAAAA AAAAN!
IRIE EEEEE EEEE!
AMANE EEEEE EEE!
THEY'RE NOT HERE.
WHERE DID THEY GO?
I DON'T THINK WE HAVE TO WORRY IF SHE'S WITH IRIE.
Since she's not alone...
I HOPE YOU'RE RIGHT...

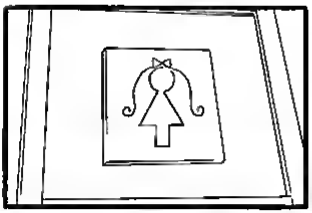
Right at the start of the new year,
I was confessed to for the first time in my life.
..DID SOMETHING HAPPEN...?
NEKOTA.
MACHAKO.
!
AMANE-SAN!
THANK GOODNESS! ARE YOU BY YOURSELF...
WAIT,
What's wrong?!
You're acting kinda weird.
I'm going back home Now
Yeah Yeah
Huh?!
A Amane-san?!
Heeeey!
STOP STOP
"Amane-san, I like you As a girl."

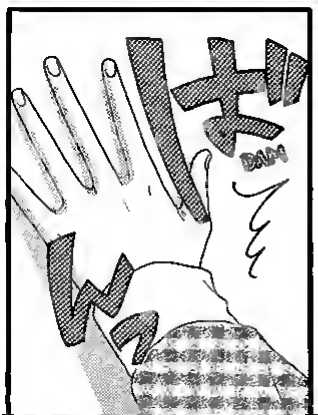
Irie likes me?
Happy New Year!
Morning!
6-1
chatter
chatter
...
...


Was like this the whole time during winter break
H-MM
H-MM
H-MM
H-MM
Are you all right?
A-...
AMANE-SAN...?
Irie said he likes me.
In other words, he wants to be a couple (!?) with me. Somehow, I managed to understand that!
But...
is being a couple...
Is being a couple fun?!
MORN-IIING.
WHAT ARE YOU GUYS TALKING ABOUT?
Ah
HARUNA.
Walking to school together in the new year, too?
It's fine, isn't it?
COU-PLE!!

THAT'S RIGHT! HARU-NA!
HARUNA KNOWS MORE ABOUT THIS STUFF THAN I DO! MY SENPAI!
HUH?!
W-
What?!

HEY,
COME HERE!
WE'RE HAVING A GIRL MEETING!
Wh-
What's going on?!




BAM

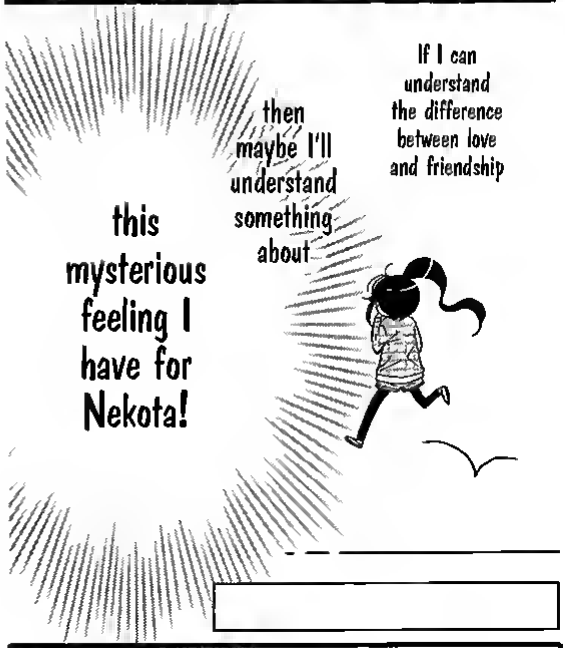
?
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?
...MAYBE.

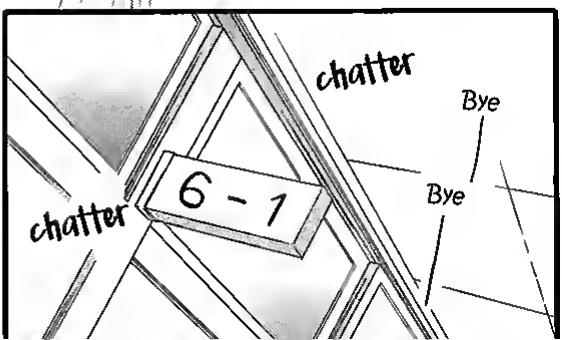
ぬ creep
W- What is this?!
What are you...
HARU-NA.
IS BEING A COUPLE... FUN?!
Huh?
WHAAAT
IRIE CONFESSED TO YOU?!
YOUR VOICE IS TOO LOUD-
YUP, BUT THE THING IS...
I'VE NEVER BEEN A COUPLE WITH ANYONE BEFORE.
ALTHOUGH, I THINK IT MUST BE FUN BECAUSE EVERYONE DOES IT!
DO YOU FIND BEING A COUPLE FUN, HARUNA?!
I don't even know
where to start.

...Well,
IF YOU DATE SOMEONE YOU LIKE
Hush
THEN OF COURSE IT'S FUN...
WHEN IRIE-KUN TOLD YOU THAT HE WANTED TO BE FRIENDS WITH YOU IN THE FIRST SCHOOL TERM,
YOU REFUSED AND SAID YOU WEREN'T INTERESTED IN HIM.
HOW ABOUT NOW?
I DON'T KNOW...
BUT I LIKE HIM, THOUGH...
Hun
I see
THEN I WONDER IF DATING IRIE WILL BE FUN FOR ME, TOO.
HOLD IT RIGHT THERE.
I ALSO LIKE NEKOTA, MACHAKO AND YUKKE.
...
Ah
BUT,
IT'S A LITTLE DIFFERENT WITH NEKOTA.
I LIKE HIM, BUT IT'S NOT THE SAME "LIKE" I HAVE FOR EVERYONE ELSE.
I DON'T QUITE UNDERSTAND IT MYSELF.

Well, that's because it was Machako.
BUT IT MADE NO SENSE TO ME.
MACHAKO TOLD ME THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN LOVE AND FRIENDSHIP BEFORE,
I SEE.
YUP.
THAT'S RIGHT.
IN ANY CASE, YOU DON'T HAVE ANY REASON TO REFUSE IRIE-KUN.
THEN
Why don't you just take a chance and try dating him anyway?
WHAT? IS THAT OKAY?!
just saying whatever
I SEE THAT HAPPENING ALL THE TIME IN STUFF LIKE RIBON MANGAS.
IT'S FINE, IT'S FINE.
I see!
THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN LOVE AND FRIENDSHIP.
MAYBE YOU'LL COME TO UNDERSTAND
WHILE YOU'RE DATING HIM,

Whatever happens to these two is none of my business.
Well
Thanks, Haruna!
Yeah! Maybe I will!


this mysterious feeling I have for Nekota!
then maybe I'll understand something about
If I can understand the difference between love and friendship


chatter
Bye
Bye
chatter
6 - 1

LISTEN UP!
I'LL BE BACK SOON!
SO WAIT FOR ME AT THE SHOE RACKS!
YOU CAN'T GO BACK HOME WITHOUT ME, OKAY?!
WAIT FOR ME!
?

...WHAT'S UP WITH HER?
NEKOTA, IF YOU TAKE IT TOO EASY,
SOMEONE MIGHT JUST TAKE HER AWAY, YOU KNOW?
Yukke and I will be going home first~
...HUH?
WHAT DOES SHE MEAN...
6-3
Bye byeee

Hana
And then
Ah
IRIE!
A-
AMANE-SAN...!
I HAVE SOMETHING TO TELL YOU!
step
CAN WE TALK?
!
...!
SURE...
OKAY, SO

I
WILL GO OUT WITH YOU!
.....
WHAT?
WHAT?!
BUT I TOLD YOU TO GIVE ME YOUR REPLY ON VALENTINE'S DAY!
DID YOU THINK ABOUT IT THOROUGHLY?!
YUP!
REALLY?! SO IT'S OKAY?!
YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT IT MEANS TO DATE?!

!!
AND BESIDES, I LIKE YOU TOO.
BUT DATING SEEMS FUN!
TO BE HONEST, I DON'T QUITE UNDERSTAND,
Hmmm
I like you too! I like you!
Echo
Thanks for waiting
YEE EEES !!!
Did you see that, Nekota?!
I won with my bravery!
WAIT... TIME-OUT.
shake
shake
?

SHINE
SHINE
PULL
THANK YOU...!
YOU TOOK ME BY SURPRISE BUT I'M VERY HAPPY!
FROM HERE ON OUT, I'LL DO MY BEST TO BE A GOOD BOYFRIEND
SO THAT YOU'LL COME TO LIKE ME EVEN MORE!
OKAY.
?
WHAT?
NO.
LET'S GO HOME TOGETHER!
RIGHT THEN, TO START WITH...
HUH!!?
!!?
NEKOTA AND THE OTHERS ARE WAITING FOR ME!
WE'LL DO IT NEXT TIME!
See ya!

Looks like I made Irie happy!
I'm back!
What took you so long?
All done now!
No waaa aaay

Sorry, sorry.
I hope it will be fun. ♪
…
Huh? Haruna and Yukke already went home?!

Awww
THAT'S NO FUN.
I'VE A LITTLE ERRAND TO RUN.
WHY?!
WHAT?
WE'RE NOT GOING HOME TOGETHER?!
THAT REMINDS ME, DID SOMETHING HAPPEN BETWEEN YOU AND IRIE ON NEW YEAR'S EVE?
WELL, THAT'S UNUSUAL.
Ah
I GUESS I'LL GO HOME WITH IRIE, THEN. I TOLD HIM I WOULD YESTERDAY.
.....
AND IT SEEMED LIKE IT WOULD BE FUN SO I THOUGHT, WHY NOT?
HE CONFESSED TO ME
WHAT?
Huh
OH, WE'RE DATING NOW.

been a day
since we
started dating!!
It's only
Don't act so smug if you don't understand.
THAT'S WHY I'M DATING HIM! TO UNDERSTAND!
NO, I DO NOT!
DO YOU EVEN UNDERSTAND WHAT IT MEANS TO DATE?
...YOU...
...WELL,
I WILL!
Compass
IN THAT CASE,
DO YOUR BEST.
CLATTER
Will she really be okay...
ding-dong

Let's go home together!
A ma ne saaa an!
SURE.
OKAY.
OVER-JOYED
Yeeees
Wait.
WHY ARE YOU WITH NEKOTA?!
IT'S ONLY UNTIL WE GET TO THE SHOE RACKS.
He said he had an errand to do
phew
OHHHH, OKAY.
...YOU HEARD ABOUT US FROM AMANE-SAN, RIGHT?
...YEAH.

...
NOT GET SO CLOSE TO HER FROM NOW ON?
...THEN, COULD YOU
The mud from P.E. is falling off!
DO YOU THINK THAT ME AVOIDING HER
IRIEEEE, LET'S GOOOOO!
BYE BYE, NEKOTA!
See you tomorrow
Ah
WAIT FOR ME, AMANE-SAN!
...!
IS SOMETHING THAT SHE WOULD WANT?

AMANE-SAN,
YOU CAN'T BE TOO FRIENDLY WITH NEKOTA ANYMORE, OKAY?
What?
WHY?
BECAUSE
I'M YOUR BOYFRIEND.
IT'S FINE TO TALK TO EACH OTHER AS CLASSMATES,
BUT DOING STUFF THAT INVOLVES BEING ALONE WITH HIM
LIKE GOING HOME TOGETHER, FOR EXAMPLE, IS...
THE HECK IS UP WITH THAT?!
A-Amane-san...?
BUT I STILL WANT TO OBSERVE HIM.
AND THIS WAS SUPPOSED TO BE MY FIRST STEP IN UNDERSTANDING HIM, TOO...
WHAT A FICKLE.
"Alone with Nekota..."
AH

If we do it this way
everything will go well!!
See yaaaa
That's it!
LIGHTS UP
I'm so happy you understood!
!!
I understand! Let's go home together, starting tomorrow!
...
Huh?
BOOM
Let's go home!
All right!

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING, AMANE-SAN?!
HUH ?!
Eh?
WELL,
WE CAN'T BE ALONE WITH EACH OTHER, RIGHT?
What?
THE THREE OF US ARE GOING HOME TOGETHER!
NO.
OH,
IT'S ONLY UNTIL YOU GUYS ARE AT THE SHOE RACKS...
Why? That's what I should be asking.
IT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE.
WHY DO I HAVE TO GO HOME WITH TWO PEOPLE THAT ARE DATING EACH OTHER?
That's not the point
...
!!
THEN THERE SHOULD BE NO PROBLEMS IF THE THREE OF US ARE TOGETHER!
WHAT?
WHY?!
I'M GOING HOME ALONE.

Wha-
NEKO-TAAAA!
Ha ha
LET'S LEAVE HIM ALONE.
WE SHOULD ALSO GET GO-...
...WHY...?
LET'S
HEAD HOME, TOO.
OKAY?
...OKAY...

CHEER UP, AMANE-SAN.
AH, WHY DON'T WE THINK UP OF SOMETHING FUN TO DO!
...MAD.
HUH?
...I WONDER IF NEKOTA'S ANGRY.
I THOUGHT IT WAS A GOOD WAY TO DO IT, THOUGH...
I-
I KNOW! LET'S GO ON A DATE!
DATE?
ARE YOU FREE AFTER SCHOOL TOMORROW?!
I HAVE SOME TIME UNTIL CRAM SCHOOL! HOW ABOUT IT?!
W-
WHAT DO YOU ON A DATE?
WE SPEND SOME TIME OUTSIDE WITH JUST THE TWO OF US!
WILL IT BE FUN?
OF COURSE!

LET'S DO IT!
...OKAY!
Look forward to it!
That's right, I haven't done anything fun yet!
I'm sure it starts here!
I SEE. SO A DATE
IS SOMETHING YOU DRESS UP FOR...
MAMAAA,
I HAVE A DATE TOMORROW. WHAT SHOULD I WEAR?
CLACK
BOOK RIBON

THUD
A DATE!?
JUST WHEN DID YOU TWO GET TO THAT STAGE?!
I know!
IT'S BECAUSE I COORDINATED THAT OUTFIT FOR YOU ON CHRISTMAS!
SO NEKOTA-KUN LIKES THAT KIND OF OUTFIT, HUH? ♡
Kyā
Kyā
IN THAT CASE, MAYBE YOU SHOULD WEAR A SKIRT THIS TIME, TOO!

Huh?
IT'S WITH IRIE.
IT'S NOT WITH NEKOTA,
We're dating.
WHAT!!?
A new character? And they're dating!?
YOU'RE PRETTY GOOD!
You've only just made friends and you're already ...!!
UM, THE CLOTHES ...
MI... MIKIKO...
YOU...

You... you're really good...
?
Being made to hold them
He's also popular.
BUT HE'S NICE AND (I HEARD HE'S) COOL?
Ummm
HE'S A LITTLE WEIRD.
I ASSUMED YOU WERE GOING WITH NEKOTA AND GOT A LITTLE EXCITED.
WHAT IS THIS IRIE-KUN LIKE?
ANYWAY
WELL, IF IT'S SOMEONE YOU CHOSE,
THEN I HAVE NOTHING TO COMPLAIN ABOUT.
NOT JUST FOR LOVE.
GOING OUT WITH A LOT OF PEOPLE IS VERY IMPORTANT.
WHEN YOU MEET MANY DIFFERENT TYPES OF PEOPLE,
YOU'LL COME TO KNOW ALL KINDS OF "LIKE".
O-kaaay?
I dated many types of people ♡
You know, when I was young

You should find someone among them who you will like so much that you will always think about them wherever you go.
I'm certain that this person will be the most important to you.
but I'm sure that "liking someone"
I don't understand it,
Okay, now try wearing these clothes I picked out.
Hm
I DON'T QUITE UNDERSTAND
THAT'S FINE.
YOU'LL UNDERSTAND IT EVENTUALLY.

will come after experiencing fun things.
She's late...
badump
badump
I wonder if she'll actually come...
Sorry.
!
SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING!
!
I'M A LITTLE LATE.

Wow, your hair is down
Y-
YOU'RE CUTE!!
I AM?
THAT'S GREAT.
R-Right then, let's...
LET'S GO!!
smile
smile
My first outing
without Nekota.
MISS

What are you doing? I'm gonna leave you behind.
Wait, we're going to run all the way to the station?!
I'm going to seek out the answer to all kinds of "like"!!
SIZZLE
HUGE PILE
eat all this fried rice you made!
Megu can't
Onii-chan, why are you so angry! You've been like this since the other day!

T/N: THANKS TO PLATYPOOS FOR POINTING OUT MY MISTAKE \O/